



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/605,654	10/15/2003	Heng-Chun Ho	SPCP0012USA	2653
27765	7590	11/16/2005	EXAMINER	
NORTH AMERICA INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY CORPORATION			TON, ANABEL	
P.O. BOX 506			ART UNIT	
MERRIFIELD, VA 22116			PAPER NUMBER	
			2875	

DATE MAILED: 11/16/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/605,654

Applicant(s)

HO, HENG-CHUN

Examiner

Anabel M. Ton

Art Unit

2875

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10/15/03.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 6-8, 10, 14, 15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 5, 9 and 11-13 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 4 is objected to because of the following informalities: applicant recites the pattern as being made "from a notch of the marking board", as recited it is not understood how a pattern is made from a single notch of the marking board since a notch, as such, is singular and cannot represent a pattern. Furthermore, as shown in figure 7, the indicium appears to be several notches not a singular notch. Appropriate correction is required.
2. As best understood, the following rejection applies.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-2,4,6-8,10,14,15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Chu (6,279,170).
3. Chu discloses a display (20) and a display base (28) comprising a housing (10, col.3 lines 66-67 and col. 4 lines 1-5) and a marking board (22) installed inside the housing and connected to the housing in a detachable manner (col. 4 lines 2-5); a pattern is formed on the marking board (col. 2 lines 24-31); the pattern being made from

Art Unit: 2875

a notch of the marking board (Chu discloses etching as a method of forming the display pattern which inherently includes at least one notch for forming the display); the display base further comprises a luminous module installed inside the housing base for lighting the marking board (LED's 28); with regards to the marking board comprising a plurality of nicks for dispersing the light emitted from the luminous module, etching, as described by applicant inherently encompasses a plurality of nicks in the marking board 22; the luminous module comprises a plurality of light emitting diodes (col. 2 lines 43-46); the display further comprises a light control module for controlling the energy of light emitted by the luminous module (microprocessor 32 and driver circuits³⁴, provide for a light control module within the display, col. 2 lines 57-67); the housing of the display base is made of a wear-resisting material (Chu discloses the display components contained within a water tight encasement made from an electrometric material which is considered by the examiner to be "wear resistant"); the display base further comprises a power module for supplying electric power for the luminous module(col. 3 lines 52-54).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chu.

6. Chu discloses the claimed invention except for the recitation of the pattern including a mist surface. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to implement a "mist surface" in the device of Chu since a surface that produces diffused light when light from the source emits through the surface is old and well known in the illumination art for use in light display devices that have LCD displays such as that of Chu. A diffuser provides an even light distribution, which is desirable feature for LCD display devices.

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 5,9,11,12,13 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

8. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The prior art cited does not teach the pattern of the display device being made form a flange of the marking board, a first and second electrical connecting port, the display is a plasma television, the display is a LCD television, the display base is made of a transparent material.

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Blonder et al , May, Merrill et al .

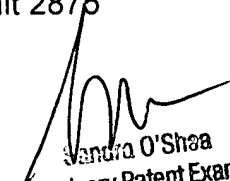
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anabel M. Ton whose telephone number is (571) 272-2382. The examiner can normally be reached on 08:00-16:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra O'Shea can be reached on (571) 272-2378. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

AMT

Anabel M Ton
Examiner
Art Unit 2875



Sandra O'Shea
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800